

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 /032 W

----- 106621

R 131436Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0898

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS PARIS 14160

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: UNOFFICIAL VISIT RE PRECLEARANCE

REF: STATE 116179

1. SINCE VISIT BY PRECLEARANCE PARTY IS DESCRIBED
REFTEL AS BEING INFORMAL AND UNOFFICIAL, WITH ALL
ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING CONTACTS WITH AIRPORT OFFICIALS
BEING ARRANGED BY ATA, EMBASSY NOT INCLINED DETAIL
OFFICER TO ACCOMPANY PARTY ON ITS VISIT TO CHARLES DE
GAULLE AIRPORT SINCE EMBASSY PRESENCE WOULD GIVE VISIT
AND ITS AIMS OFFICIAL STATUS IN THE EYES OF GOF
AUTHORITIES. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, WELCOME BRIEFING BY
PARTY.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT GOF REACTION WOULD
BE TO AN EVENTUAL PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT PRE-
CLEARANCE AT CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT FOR US-
DESTINATION PASSENGERS, THOUGH WE FORESEE A NUMBER OF
PROBLEMS. INTRODUCTION OF CONCORDE SERVICE TO US
LATER THIS MONTH WILL INTRODUCE YET ANOTHER IMPEDIMENT,
SINCE GOF AND AIR FRANCE WISH NOTHING TO INTERFERE
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WITH CONCORDE SERVICE WHICH, AFTER ALL, HAS ONLY

TIME-SAVING SPEED TO COMMEND IT. EVEN GROUND
ARRANGEMENTS REFLECT THIS, WITH SPECIAL HANDLING OF
DEPARTING CONCORDE PASSENGERS AT AIRPORT AND
TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS FROM PARIS AIR TERMINAL
TO AIRPORT IN SPECIAL BUS (FOLLOWED BY EMPTY BACK-UP
BUS) AND PROCEEDED BY SPECIAL SERVICE VEHICLE TO CLEAR
THE WAY. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD GUESS THAT
GOF AND AIR FRANCE WOULD HARDLY WELCOME US PRECLEARANCE
THAT MIGHT CAUSE CONCORDE FLIGHT TO BE DELAYED OR
PASSENGER TO MISS FLIGHT BECAUSE OF COMPLICATION THAT
MIGHT DEVELOP DURING PASSENGER'S PASSAGE THROUGH US
PRECLEARANCE POINT. INTEREST OF GOF AND AIR FRANCE
WILL BE TO TRANSPORT PASSENGER FROM PARIS TO
WASHINGTON AND EVENTUALLY, WE HOPE, TO NEW YORK IN
RECORD TIME ABOARD CONCORDE, LETTING THE US TAKE THE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHATEVER DELAY THE PASSENGER THEN
ENCOUNTERS WITH CLEARANCE FORMALITIES ON THE GROUND AT
DULLES OR JFK.
GAMMON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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